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LETTER DATED 14 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith a letter dated 13 June 1993 addressed to you by Mr. Mohammed Said Al-Sahaf, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Iraq, concerning paragraph 14 of Security Council resolution 687 (1991).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 13 June 1993 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council

We should like to call the attention of the Security Council to an alarming statement made by Mordechai Gur, Israeli Deputy Minister of Defence, concerning Israel's possession of nuclear weapons. On 7 June 1993, Agence France-Presse transmitted the following news item:

> "The Israeli Deputy Minister of Defence, Mordechai Gur, said on Sunday, 6 June 1993, that Israel would respond to a nuclear strike from any Arab State a hundred times over.
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> "Mordechai Gur, speaking at a meeting held at the Institute for Strategic Studies of Tel Aviv University on the twelfth anniversary of the Israeli attack on the Tammuz reactor in Iraq, said that Arab leaders must realize that a nuclear attack on Israel could not be to their advantage. He went on to say, 'We are capable of responding a hundredfold.'"

This official statement of the Deputy Minister of Defence is unequivocal and indubitable confirmation that Israel does have nuclear weapons and that it possesses a large stock of them; General Mordechai Gur speaks clearly and shamelessly of the hundreds of nuclear strikes that Israel can make against the Arab countries.

Iraq has warned on a previous occasion of the dangers inherent in the Security Council's negative attitude on this matter. In my letter of 28 October 1992 addressed to the President of the Council (S/24726), I stated as follows:

> "Since the adoption of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) stipulating, inter alia, that Iraq is to be deprived of certain types of weapons and imposing on it a strict prohibition with regard to their future production, the Security Council and other United Nations organs (the Special Commission and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)) have been waging a ferocious and unparalleled campaign for implementation of this particular part of the resolution ...
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> "...
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> "The Security Council, which has waged such a ferocious campaign against Iraq for close to two years, has not, however, given any thought to devoting a single moment of its time to following up another essential part of resolution 687 (1991), namely that in which the Council:
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> > 'Takes note that the actions to be taken by Iraq in paragraphs 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of the present resolution represent steps towards the goal of establishing in the Middle East a zone free from weapons of mass destruction and all missiles for their delivery and the objective of a global ban on chemical weapons.'

This vital part of the resolution is of the Security Council's own making, but the Council has done nothing to follow it up at the very time the feverish pace of the arms race in the region is accelerating, including that for the possession of weapons of mass destruction. Disregard for this part of the resolution or failure to ensure its proper implementation would do serious damage not only to the concept of security and to the possibility of its establishment in the region but also to the security and sovereignty of other States in the region, among them Iraq."

As matters now stand, we and the international community are entitled to ask with regard to this explicit declaration of possession of nuclear weapons: What measures will the Security Council take under the terms of resolution 687 (1991), which the members of the Council constantly stress was adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter?

The continued silence of the Security Council on this grave matter and its failure to take the necessary measures to implement paragraph 14 of resolution 687 (1991) confirm the statements of all impartial observers in all parts of the world concerning the double standards that govern Security Council procedures as they relate to States.

The Security Council bears full responsibility for this grave situation.

(Signed) Mohammed Said AL-SAHAF
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Iraq